deserved areas, which are under-served, as far as medical services are concerned. Once the EFC comes, we will initiate the process. *(Interruptions)*

डॉ॰ मुरली मनोहर जोशी: सभापति जी, आप यह बता दीजिए ...(व्यवधान)... यह एक व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है कि मंत्री महोदय से जो सवाल पूछा है उसका उत्तर स्वंय मंत्री महोदय दें या कोई सम्मानित सदस्य उत्तर देंगे? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: अभी तक हाउस में जो प्रेक्टिस चली आ रही है, वही चलती रहेगी। ...(व्यवधान)... ठीक, ठीक है, मैं रोकूंगा?

Task force report on micro irrigation

*65. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that task force on micro irrigation has submitted its report;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the task force has recommended for an allocation of Rs. 10,500 crores in the Tenth Plan and Rs. 51,000 crores in the Eleventh Plan to meet the needs of three million hectares of micro irrigational needs of the country;

(c) if so, whether Government have studied the report;

(d) whether the matter has been discussed with the Finance Minister and the Planning Commission; and

(e) if so, the outcome of the discussions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (e) A Task Force on Micro Irrigation constituted in 2003 under the chairmanship of the then Chief Minister, Andhra Pradesh has submitted its report to the Central Government. The Task Force has recommended coverage of 3 million ha. under micro irrigation in the country during the Tenth Plan and another 14 million ha. during the Eleventh Plan. According to the Task Force this would require an investment of Rs. 10,500 crores during the Tenth Plan and another Rs. 51,000 crores during the Eleventh Plan.

The matter has been taken up with the Ministry of Finance and the Planning Commission.

SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to why he has failed to convince the hon. Finance Minister for making some allocation for micro irrigation at a time when the Finance Minister has given a lot of thrust on agriculture and irrigation in his 2004-05 Budget.

श्री कांतिलाल भूरिया: माननीय सभापति जी, जो चन्द्रबाबू नायडु की अध्यक्षता में एक कमेटी बनी थी और उसने जो रिकमेंडेशन्स दी थी उसमें दसवी पंचवर्षीय योजना के लिए साढ़े दस हजार करोड़ रुपए की अनुशंसा की और ग्यारहवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में इक्यावन हजार करोड़ की अनुशंसा की थी। अनुशंसाओं पर विचार-विमर्श करने के पश्चात् प्रभावी कार्यवाही की जाएगी। केन्द्रीय सरकार की लागत की 40 प्रतिशत अंशपूंजी अर्थात् 4200 करोड़ रुपए का बजट प्रावधान आयात उपकर पर विश्व बैंक की राशि के माध्यम से सृजित किया जाए। राज्य सरकार की अंश पूंजी लागत की 10 प्रतिशत राशि अर्थात् 1050 करोड़ रुपए नाबार्ड के ग्रामीण अवसंरचना विकास से प्राप्त करते हुए सृजित किया जाए। बकाया 50 प्रतिशत अंशपूंजी जो कि 5250 करोड़ रुपए की राशि है उसे लाभानुभोगियों द्वारा वहन किया जाना चाहिए जिसके लिए वे सांस्थानिक वित्त की मांग कर सकते हैं। कार्यबल अनुभव करता है कि माइक्रो इरिगेशन सिस्टम को स्थापित करने के लिए प्रारंभिक निवेश काफी अधिक है जिसे अधिकांश किसान वहन नहीं कर सकते। यद्यपि इस पर विचार-विमर्श जारी है और सरकार पूरे मन से सिफारिशों को लागू करने का प्रयास करेगी। बजट में टोकन प्रावधान किया है।

SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Sir, my second supplementary is: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the amount sought by the Task Force is only for the basic infrastructure on micro irrigation or for the implementation of report *in toto*.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): Sir, this is the recommendation of the Task Force.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him speak.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, it was only for Rs. 61,000 crores, and it was not possible to complete the work, on such a recommendation, within one year. The recommendation is for various purposes—setting up of infrastructure, buying pipelines, supplying pipelines to farmers. Sir, definitely, it will take time, and the entire proposal has been sent to the Ministry of Finance.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a larger issue. The recommendations are very clear. In order to see that these recommendations are accepted, was there a wider discussion within the Government about these recommendations made by the CII, in order to increase production as also to take care of other issues mentioned in that?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, within the Agriculture Ministry the discussion is over. We are going to have discussions with the Planning Commission, Sir, the financial responsibility is on the higher side, but the recommendations are very useful. Water is a scarce commodity in this country and we have to give good weightage for it. We are going to, very effectively, take it up with the Planning Commission.

Study regarding problems of farming sector

*66. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have carried out any authentic study of the problem afflicting the farming sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether Government are aware of the major bottlenecks impeding the growth in the agricultural sector; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to remove them?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. A study entitled "State of Indian Farmers—A Millennnium Study" has been undertaken with focus on problems facing farmers like declining size of holdings, degradation of soil and water resources, and inadequate institutional credit support.

(b) The Study consists of two phases. Phase I pertains to preparation of papers by experts on the 25 identified subjects relating to agriculture, which contain a retrospective analysis of the Agricultural Development experience in post independence era. All the papers have been prepared, and are under printing. Phase II relates to Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) on Conditions of Indian Farmers. The National Sample Survey